CALL TO ORDER: Following due call and notice thereof, Mayor Morey called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Room, City Hall.

ROLL CALL: Members present: Mayor Michael J. Morey; Council Members Paul Fisch, Randi Vick, Gary Klug and Robert Standish. Members absent: None. Consultants and City staff present: Joyce Iverson, Patty Gavin, Mike Gerardy, Randy Shefelbine and Robert L. Nelson. Visitors present: Mike Gavin, Todd Roesler, Julie Privet, Dan and Faith Bergin, Bob and Jan Klug, Pete Gengler, Helen McCabe, Pemilla Ernster, Gail Trocinski, Sheila Murphy, Cathy Gavin – Krupa, Jason Gordon, Tim Kirchner, Sue Burg, Karen Loging, Jessica Ronken, Susie Goetzinger, Nick Gengler, John & Margaret Demmer, Roger Koel, Rob Schmitz, Don Bennewth, Dan Stemper and Jane Palen, reporter.

CONSENT AGENDA: Following brief discussion, a motion was made by Mayor Morey, seconded by Member Klug, to approve the Consent Agenda items, listed below. All members voted in favor and the motion was declared carried.

A. MINUTES OF PAST MEETINGS: To approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held Monday, January 23, 2006, as presented.

B. 2006 EMC CONFERENCE: To authorize up to four ambulance attendants to attend the 2006 EMC Conference at the Mayo Civic Auditorium in Rochester for a registration fee of $120 each. The seminar is to be held Friday, March 17 and Saturday, March 18.

C. SMALL WIND WORKSHOP: To authorize up to two city employees and any Council Members who wish to attend a Small Wind Workshop at the Lewiston Community Center on February 22, 2006, for information on wind turbine generators. Registration fee is $10 per person.

D. 69TH ANNUAL WASTEWATER OPERATIONS CONFERENCE: To authorize Tony Klug to attend the Annual Wastewater Conference at Bloomington from March 15-17, for a registration fee of $270 and the expense for three nights in a motel along with reimbursement for miscellaneous expenses and mileage.

VISITORS AND COMMUNICATIONS

A. ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR:

1. STREET DEPARTMENT VEHICLE BIDS: Mike Gerardy, Administrative Coordinator, re-presented the bids for a 1-ton truck and box after having affirmed that the bids met the specifications list. Bids received at the past council meeting were: Ellingson Motors - $20,466 and Pladson Ford - $20,985 for the truck chassis. Bids for the box were: Universal Truck & Equipment - $10,452.89 and Henderson Truck and Equipment - $10,646.81. Mr. Gerardy recommended award to the two low bids being Ellingson Motors and Universal Truck & Equipment for a total bid amount of $30,918.89 plus Minnesota Sales Tax. Following brief discussion, a motion was made by Mayor Morey, seconded by Member Standish, to award the bid to Ellingson Motors and Universal Truck & Equipment as recommended by Mr. Gerardy, including allowance for marking the new vehicle, providing a 2-way radio and other necessary items for an amount not to exceed $34,000. Further, to reserve the right for the City to reimburse itself for the expense of this purchase by means of a Certificate of Indebtedness or other appropriate financing tool. All members voted in favor and the motion was declared carried.

2. PROPOSED MAINTENANCE BUILDING: Mr. Gerardy informed the Council that he had obtained a range of cost for the building itself but needed further information for such items as plumbing, electrical wiring, and the like. Discussion was tabled to a future meeting when estimated costs for those items were available and have been reviewed with the finance committee.

B. LIQUOR STORE REPORT: Patty Gavin, Liquor Store Manager, informed the Council that the sales for January of 2006 exceeded the January sales for all previous years since she had been manager, recommended installation of a new alarm system and video camera, as well as additional electrical outlets in the office and a new counter top for the checkout area. She reported that beer sales for 2005 exceeded previous years. She said the LaCrosse Tribune
Newspaper requested authorization to set a stand outside the Liquor Store Building, the Council recommended not allowing such placement. She recommended placing the City logo on the front of the building and using tag lines on sales items such as “100% of our profits go to the City Of Caledonia.” She also needs additional electrical outlets under the sales area counter and four new rugs at the doors. She reported a water leak in the awning which drips on the public sidewalk, then freezes during the warm/cold daily tempeture changes. The cash register and debt/check card machines are working well. The wine cooler, while quite aged, is still running. Patty designed a new sales technique, “Create your own 6 pack” meaning that customers may select any varieties of beer to build a 6 pack of their choice for $8.99. She reports that is going well. Following her presentation, the Council instructed her to proceed to accomplish the minor items listed, such as installation of additional electrical outlets and purchasing rugs. For more complex items, such as the video camera, she was requested to investigate various vendors and obtain quotes. No action was taken on any of the issues at this time.

C. ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER: Mike Gavin, Animal Control Officer, discussed issues of animal control with the Council including a capture fee charge, predicted areas of activity and a request for an increase in the rate for animal control service. He reported the current capture fee is set at $20 while LaCrosse, Wisconsin has a fee of $50. He predicted that there will be an increase in cat and dog activity during the months of February, March and April with April also being a month of extensive bat activity. Mr. Gavin stated he is currently paid $300 per month for his services and that has been the rate for the last two or three years. He requested an increase. For the amount paid, Mr. Gavin said he houses captured animals in his building on his property and purchases the food necessary to feed them. There was further discussion on the equipment needed for his service, such as long poles for capture, drugs and the like. Discussion ended with the understanding that Mr. Gavin was to return at the next council meeting with a list of needs for equipment and supplies along with a list of the types of activities and animals and the frequency with which he encounters them.

D. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR ISSUES:  

1. MAYORAL PROCLAMATION: Joyce Iverson, Economic Development Director, submitted a draft proclamation for the Mayor’s approval, being a proclamation declaring the week of February 27 – March 3, 2006, to be observed as Caledonia Business Appreciation Week with a business appreciation luncheon to be held on Thursday, March 2, at the Four Seasons Community Center from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. The Council approved the proclamation by general consensus. Further, regarding the luncheon to be held March 2, a motion was made by Member Fisch, seconded by Member Klug, to authorize up to $850 of expenditure to support the appreciation luncheon by the City Of Caledonia. All members voted in favor and the motion was declared carried.

2. SNO-PAC FOODS, LETTER OF SUPPORT: Ms. Iverson requested the Council approve a letter of support for Sno-Pac Foods to obtain a Value Added Producer Grant (VAPG) from the USDA to expand market area and products. Following discussion, a motion was made by Member Fisch, seconded by Member Standish, to adopt the letter of support for Sno-Pac Foods as presented. All members voted in favor and the motion was declared carried.

3. ROOT RIVER TRAIL: Ms. Iverson requested the Council adopt a resolution supporting the Root River Bicycle Trail from Houston to LaCresent. She explained that a group of people from Hokah, LaCresent, Houston County, LaCrosse County and others have been working on a trail system for several years. The State of Minnesota, which may appropriate grant monies to fund such trails, encourage linking existing trails as opposed to those which may dead end in a community. Since there are already trails coming from the west to Houston and there are already trails to LaCrosse, Wisconsin, the next stage considered most suitable to obtain state grants was to connect a trail from Houston to LaCrosse. Long range plans would include a trail system uniting all Houston County communities and perhaps leading into Iowa. Ms. Iverson said the process to complete the northern trail may take 3 – 7 years. Following discussion, the Council indicated it would take the recommendation of support under advisement and discuss it further at the next council meeting.

E. CRIMINAL JUSTICE CENTER: Approximately 25 citizens attended the meeting to discuss issues of the proposed Houston County Criminal Justice Center with the City Council, asking questions about the proposed location of the facility, how zoning regulations may impact its location and design and expressing their opinion of its possible placement on courthouse square. Visitors asked if any other locations had been investigated aside from the courthouse
square. With regard to zoning regulations, Clerk Nelson responded that, in his opinion, it would be a permitted use in the residential district. Mention was made of the joint scheduled meeting of the Houston County Commissioners and City Council to be held on March 14 at the Caledonia Middle/High School Auditorium at which time the architects were to have an illustration available for the exact location of plan B at the south end of the existing courthouse. That illustration is expected to show the layout of the building as far as the area encompassed by the first floor and the dimensions of the upper story. One visitor commented that a county representative had stated off site locations were investigated, including out by the new Caledonia Middle/High School and at the north end of town near St. John’s Elementary, but the locations were to near the school buildings. The question was asked if it was unwise to locate the proposed Criminal Justice Center near those schools, why is it inappropriate to locate it nearby St. Mary’s Elementary. One visitor commented that the proposed facility would disintegrate the neighborhood characteristics of the community, causing concerns for parents with minor children, considering the large numbers of prisoners which could be kept at the facility to the extent that the jail/courthouse square area would be an area for their children to avoid when traveling around town. Another visitor remarked that the nighttime lighting system, thought to be necessary to such facility, would probably be disrupted to the surrounding residential neighbors. Concern was also expressed, that should the facility be built to standards for housing federal prisoners, the state or federal government may assign long term prisoners, convicted of serious crimes, to the facility. Visitors were encouraged to attend the joint meeting scheduled for March 14 so their explicit questions, concerning the facility, could be answered.

F. POLICE DEPARTMENT: Police Chief Randy Shefelbine requested authorization to solicit bids for a digital camera and new computers for the police department. In addition, he would seek quotes for a pb breath tester and copier/fax machine combo. Mention was made that the digital camera may cost approximately $1,500 for the quality pictures desired by the Houston County Attorney’s Office. The Council approved solicitation of quotes by general consensus.

G. REQUEST TO LOCATE DUMPSTER ON STREET: Dan Stemper, contractor, informed the Council that he was to do remodeling work on a nearby residents, needing a garbage dumpster to dispose of the removed materials. The driveway length is approximately 10’ and the owner preferred not to place the dumpster on the lawn because of a sloping hillside and damage that maybe done to the lawn. Mr. Stemper asked if the City had a procedure for issuing permits to place the dumpster on the street during this winter period when alternate side parking was being enforced. The Council responded there was no permit system and that placing the dumpster on the street would lead to issuance of a citation, generally, every other day. Discussion did reveal that the Council thought the idea of having permits for those instances when locating a dumpster off the street where absolutely impossible maybe a reasonable procedure. Brief discussion was held on what permit fees might cost for such circumstances. Mr. Stemper was informed that at the present time the alternate side parking would be enforced.

H. COMMUNICATIONS
1. SEMDC, News, winter 2006
2. Letter, Tri-County Electric, 1-30-06.

CLAIMS
A. PREPAID CLAIMS: Following review, discussion and deliberation, a motion to approve the Prepaid Claims was made by Member Fisch and seconded by Member Vick. All members voted in favor and the motion was declared carried.

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Regular Meeting, Monday, February 13, 2006, continued...

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B. CLAIMS PAYABLE: Following review, discussion and deliberation, a motion to approve and authorize payment of the Claims Payable for January 2006 was made by Member Fisch and seconded by Member Vick. All members voted in favor and the motion was declared carried.

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<td>Dahl Automotive 06 Squad Maintenance</td>
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<td>Davy Engineering 2003/2005 Rehab Project</td>
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<td>Davy Laboratories 3 Total Coliforms</td>
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<td>Demco DVD Covers/Sleeves</td>
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<td>Drivers License Guide Co. 2006 ID Checking Guide</td>
<td>26.95</td>
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<td>ECM Publishers, Inc. 2 Ads</td>
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<td>Emergency Medical Products Supplies</td>
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<td>Esch Builders Tapping Bit</td>
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<td>Fastenal Company Sign Bolts</td>
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<td>First Supply Hydrant Parts</td>
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<td>Hawkins Inc. Chemicals</td>
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<td>Heiman Fire Equipment, Inc. Camera Battery</td>
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<td>High Voltage Test Laboratory Equipment Testing</td>
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<td>Ken’s Small Engine Saw Chain/Chain Saw</td>
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<td>Kwik Trip Stores Windshield Wash</td>
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<td>Mac Queen Equipment Repair Parts</td>
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<td>Midland Telecom Inc. 2 pagers</td>
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<td>Midwest Tape Library DVDs</td>
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<td>Mississippi Welders Supply Oxygen</td>
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<td>Moe Fencing, Inc. Balcony Fence</td>
<td>2,858.00</td>
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<td>M-R Sign Company, Inc. Signs</td>
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<td>National Waterworks, Inc. Invoice for Resale</td>
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<td>Printy Quik Hand Stamp</td>
<td>15.92</td>
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<td>Public Safety Center, Inc. Signal Lights</td>
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<td>Quillin’s IGA Miscellaneous Items</td>
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<td>Resco Tools/Inventory</td>
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<td>Richard’s Sanitation Refuse Disposal</td>
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<td>Rippe, Hammell &amp; Murphy Prosecution Matters</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rodale Betty Cocker Annual Recipe Book</td>
<td>33.90</td>
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<td>Ronco Engineering Sales, Inc. Adapter</td>
<td>57.73</td>
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<td>Schilling Supply Company Bags/Tissue/Copy Paper</td>
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<td>SE Libraries Cooperating Auto Fees</td>
<td>401.33</td>
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<td>SE MN Development Corp. Comm RLF/Caledonia Oil</td>
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OLD BUSINESS

A. COUNCIL WAGES: The Council briefly discussed the wage rate set, but was interested in knowing the annual salaries of like municipalities before considering changes. Clerk Nelson was directed to obtain information of similar size municipality council wages. No action was taken at this time.

B. CLERK’S OFFICE SCANNER: Clerk Nelson reported that representatives of E O Johnson Company offered to set up their scanning system and install the software program on city computers for a two week trial period to determine whether or not the equipment met expectation. The quote remained at $1,300. Following discussion, a motion was made by Member Fisch, seconded by Member Standish, to approve the proposal to first test the scanning equipment and, providing it performs satisfactorily, authorize its purchase for the quoted price of $1,300. All members voted in favor and the motion was declared carried.

C. CITY WELLS #4 & #5: Clerk Nelson informed the Council that the City is now completing a Wellhead Protection Program. Having conferred with representatives of the Minnesota Department of Health and Minnesota Rural Water Association, the City is encouraged to seal wells #4 and #5 as soon as possible. Tony Klug, Water/Wastewater Supervisor also recommends the wells be sealed. Clerk Nelson asked the Council for authorization for Mr. Klug to solicit quotes for sealing the two old, unused wells. Following brief discussion, a motion was made by Mayor Morey, seconded by Member Klug, to obtain estimates to seal wells #4 & #5. All members voted in favor and the motion was declared carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A. GAMBLING LICENSES/PREMISES PERMITS
1. CALEDONIA SNO GOPHERS: A motion was made by Member Standish, seconded by Member Klug, to approve the requested renewal of Gambling License #04864 for period May 1, 2006 to May 1, 2008, for selling pull tabs at Good Times Restaurant and Bar. All members voted in favor and the motion was declared carried.

2. AMERICAN LEGION: A motion was made by Member Klug, seconded by Member Standish, to approve the request to renew the American Legion Gambling License #773 to period August 1, 2006 to August 1, 2008, conduct bingo and sell pull tabs at the Caledonia Auditorium basement on Saturday evenings and to sell pull tabs at the American Legion Club. Further, the rental fee for the premises permit to conduct bingo and sell pull tabs at the Caledonia City Auditorium shall remain $40 per week. All members voted in favor and the motion was declared carried.

3. CALEDONIA TOUCHDOWN CLUB: Following review of the Application for Exempt Permit, submitted by the Caledonia Touchdown Club, the Council took no action for approval since the gambling premises information section was in some respects incomplete and in other respects improperly completed. The application was to be referred back to the requesters for proper completion and re-submittal.

B. ANNUAL FIRE DISTRICT MEETING: Clerk Nelson discussed the documents enclosed with the Agenda. Those documents had been distributed and reviewed at the Annual Fire District Meeting held January 31. Some issues remaining to be clarified include additions to the content of the agreement for fire protection services from the city to the rural fire district and corrective work on the distributions list.

CLERK’S REPORT

A. INSURANCE DIVIDEND: Clerk Nelson reported that the City received an insurance dividend in the amount of $20,986 from the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust.
B. EMPLOYEE TIME RECORD: Enclosed with the Agenda was the Employee Time Record for pay period January 16 – 29, 2006.

C. POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Enclosed with the Agenda was the Police Activity List and Office Activity Summary for January 2006.

D. LMC POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP: Enclosed with the Agenda was an informational document from the League of Minnesota Cities describing its policy committee and membership application procedures. Interested council members were encouraged to apply.

E. NOTICE OF SALE: Enclosed with the Agenda was a letter from Aquila giving notice of its assignment to WPS Minnesota Utilities, Inc.

F. MAPPING: Clerk Nelson informed the Council that meetings had been conducted with Davy Engineering Company and PowerPlus Engineering to update the base map, water main map, wastewater utility map, electrical map and storm water map of the City. It will start with the base map and Davy Engineering such that city staff will add or correct any information on the present illustration to accomplish the update. There after each utility shall be updated and corrected.

G. BOARD OF REVIEW: Clerk Nelson informed the Council the Annual Board of Review had been scheduled for 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, April 26, 2006, in the Council Room, City Hall.

H. REMINDER: A reminder was made that Mayor Morey will be attending the Conference for Experienced Officials in Bloomington, Minnesota on February 17 & 18.

I. BOXING CLUB – INSURANCE: Clerk Nelson distributed selected pages from the Insurance Policy of the Caledonia Boxing Club explaining to the Council that the referenced amount of $5,000,000 coverage was actually limited to $1,000,000 for each event and further limited to $50,000 coverage for damage to property, but included a $100,000 deductible. Therefore actual coverage is quite limited.

J. BOXING MATCH – AD: Enclosed with the Agenda was an advertisement for the event which is to be held March 11, 2006, in the Caledonia City Auditorium Gymnasium.

K. MMUA LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE: Clerk Nelson distributed copies of a legislative conference sponsored by the Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association at Bloomington on March 29-31, 2006. Clerk Nelson recommended that at least one person from the City attend the conference to be brought up to date on issues of renewable energy and other topics that were to be discussed. Following discussion, a motion was made by Mayor Morey, seconded by Member Klug, to authorize a journey lineman to attend the conference with the anticipated costs of $165 for registration fee, hotel expense, mileage and reimbursement of miscellaneous expenses. All members voted in favor and the motion was declared carried.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business before the Council, a motion to adjourn was made by Member Standish and seconded by Member Vick. All members voted in favor, the motion was declared carried and the meeting then adjourned at 10:40 p.m. The next Regular Meeting of the City Council is scheduled for 7:00 p.m., Monday, February 27, 2006, in the Council Room, City Hall.

Michael J. Morey, Mayor

Robert L. Nelson
City Clerk - Administrator